

MAR 31 2005

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

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**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant  
application filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number	09/401,080
Filing Date	September 22, 1999
First Named Inventor	Takashi SHIKAMA
Group Art Unit	2832
Examiner Name	T. Nguyen
Attorney Docket Number	36856.218

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the Patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

**1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

04/04/2005 BBOHNER 00000023 09401080

**a. ☒ Previously submitted**

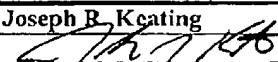
01 FC:1831

799.00 00

**i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s) reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on November 18, 2004**  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).**ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on****iii. ☐ Other****b. ☒ Enclosed****i. ☐ Amendment/Reply****ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)****iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)****iv. ☒ Other Petition for one-month Extension of Time****2. Miscellaneous****a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103© for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)****b. ☐ Other****1. Fees**

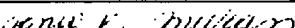
The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

**a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353****i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)****ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)****iii. ☐ Other****b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed****c. ☒ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)****SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	Joseph B. Keating	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37,368
Signature		Date	December 15, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	Sonia V. McVean	Date	December 15, 2004
Signature			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

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**KEATING & BENNETT LLP**

# Fax

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
MAR 31 2005

<b>To:</b> Examiner T. Nguyen	<b>From:</b> Christopher A. Bennett
<b>Fax:</b> 703-872-9306	<b>Date:</b> March 31, 2005
<b>Phone:</b> 571-272-1996	<b>Pages:</b> 8
<b>Re:</b> 09/401,080 36856.218	<b>CC:</b>

**•Comments:**

Examiner Nguyen,

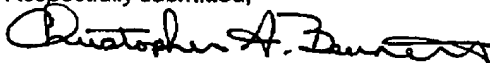
Further to our phone conversation of this afternoon, please find attached a copy the following documents for Application No. 09/401,080 that were sent via facsimile on December 15, 2004:

1. Request for Continued Examination (that included the signed Certificate of Transmission); and
2. Petition for one-month extension of time (that includes the signed Certificate of Transmission); and
3. Two (2) Credit Card Payment forms.

In addition, we also the following documents:

3. Two credit card payment forms (to replace the originally filed credit card payment forms) as the account information contained on the credit card payment forms faxed on December 15, 2005 is no longer current; and
4. Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher A. Bennett

for

KEATING & BENNETT, LLP  
(Reg. No. 46,710)